

In re Ashwath NAGARAJ., Application No. 10/813,210
Amendment A

REMARKS

The Office action dated January 16, 2007, and the references cited have been fully considered. In response, please enter the amendments and consider the following remarks presented herein. Reconsideration and/or further prosecution of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicant greatly appreciates the thoughtful examination of this application, including consideration of the IDS references, performing a prior art search to determine the best available references as required by MPEP § 706 and 37 CFR 1.104(c)(2), and determining that claims 1-10 and 17-23 are patentably distinct and allowable over the best prior art available.

Applicant also appreciates the detection of the typographical error in claim 14, which is corrected herein, so Applicant requests the claim objection be withdrawn.

Applicant further appreciates the Office citing the two references against claims 11-16, so Applicant can patentably differentiate the claims, and address the Office's analysis. Applicant does not concede that Sit et al., US Patent 7,152,140 nor Ichiriu, US Patent 6,978,343 is prior art to this application, as neither reference is § 102(b) art. However, as this application has been pending for a long duration, Applicant has elected to re-write original dependent claim 12 as independent claim 11 and original dependent claim 15 as independent claim 14 (this approach avoids amended the dependences of claims 13 and 16), as Applicant believes that original claims 12 and 14 are allowable over these two references in their current state of being § 102(e) references. Applicant refers the Office to FIG. 1C which illustrates, and page 16, line 20 *et seq.* which describes that associative memory 190 is programmed with each entry two or more times in consecutive associative memory entries 191-199. Neither Sit et al. nor Ichiriu disclose such, and Applicant has slightly reworded the language of original claims 12 and 15 to capture this same originally claimed limitation using the words "such that each particular entry of said determined protected entries is completely replicated in two or more consecutive entries in the associative memory." Applicant understands that the Office broadly construes claims, but that such claim construction must be reasonable in light of the original disclosure. Applicant believes

In re Ashwath NAGARAJ., Application No. 10/813,210
Amendment A

that the limitation added to claims 11 and 14 is the same limitation as the properly construed original limitation of claims 12 and 14, but this slight re-wording might alleviate the Office's concern. For at least the reason that the prior art of record neither teaches nor suggests this described and claimed limitation, claims 11, 13, 14, and 16 are believed to be allowable.

Final Remarks. In view of the above remarks and for at least the reasons presented herein, all pending claims are believed to be allowable over all prior art of record, the application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Office is respectfully requested to issue a timely Notice of allowance in this case. Applicant requests any and all rejections and/or objections be withdrawn. If, in the opinion of the Office, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Office is invited to call the undersigned attorney, as Applicant is open to discussing, considering, and resolving issues.

Applicant requests a one-month extension of time is required. Should a different extension of time be deemed appropriate, Applicant hereby petitions for such deemed extension of time. Applicant further authorizes the charging of Deposit Account No. 501430 for any fees that may be due in connection with this paper (e.g., claim fees, extension of time fees) as required in addition to the payment made herewith using Form PTO-2038.

Respectfully submitted,
The Law Office of Kirk D. Williams

Date: May 15, 2007

By


Kirk D. Williams, Reg. No. 42,229
One of the Attorneys for Applicant
CUSTOMER NUMBER 26327
The Law Office of Kirk D. Williams
PO BOX 61538, Denver, CO 80206-8538
303-282-0151 (telephone), 303-778-0748 (facsimile)